

ABSTRACT

A core network shared by a large number of edge nodes comprises core nodes interconnected by core channels. Selected core channels are provided with buffers to enable temporal alignment of signals arriving at any core node from several other core nodes. A buffer may be provided at either end of a core channel. Otherwise, all other ports of the core node may be bufferless. Providing such buffers enables the construction of high-capacity wide-coverage network comprising a large number of core nodes shared by numerous edge nodes. Methods of temporal coordination among the network nodes are disclosed.

10